

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EUR-25 AF-10 AID-20 IOE-00 SS-20

L-03 H-03 NSC-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00

HEW-08 DRC-01 SR-02 ORM-03 DPW-01 /165 W

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P R 141507Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3083

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, UNICEF ASSISTANCE TO INDOCHINA

SUBJ: UNICEF ASSISTANCE TO INDOCHINA

REF: USUN 0862

SUMMARY. THIS MESSAGE SUMMARIZES STATUS OF UNICEF ACTIVITIES
RELATING TO INDOCHINA. MISSION COMMENTS CONTAINED REFTEL.
END SUMMARY.

1. MISOFF ATTENDED MEETING MARCH 7 CALLED BY UNICEF
TO ACQUAINT POSSIBLE DONOR COUNTRIES WITH CURRENT
STATUS UNICEF'S THINKING WITH REGARD TO ASSISTANCE TO
INDOCHINA. BASIS OF REPORT WAS RECENTLY COMPLETED TRIP TO
INDOCHINA BY MARTIN SANDBERG (NORWEGIAN) AND JACQUES
BEAUMONT (FRENCH), IN WHICH ONE WEEK WAS SPENT EACH IN
HANOI, LAOS, CAMBODIA AND SOUTH VIETNAM. PURPOSE OF
SANDBERG/BEAUMONT TRIP, WHICH WAS SECOND TO AREA, WAS
TO BETTER IDENTIFY AREAS WHERE UNICEF PROGRAMS COULD
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BE MOUNTED; AND WAS LOGICAL FOLLOW-UP OF THE OPENING

OF UNICEF OFFICES IN VIENTIANE AND PHNOM PENH IN SEPTEMBER AND NOVEMBER, 1973, RESPECTIVELY, AND ENLARGEMENT OF UNICEF OFFICE IN SAIGON WHICH REPORTEDLY WENT INTO EFFECT IN SEPTEMBER, 1973.

2. MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM CANADA, DENMARK, NORWAY, POLAND, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, FRG, USSR, NEW ZEALAND, FRANCE, THE NETHERLANDS, IRELAND AND ALGERIA (ALGERIAN ATTENDANCE REFLECTS FACT ALGERIA MADE CONTRIBUTION TO UNICEF INDOCHINA PENINSULA PROGRAM). INVITED TO ATTEND BUT DID NOT SHOW WERE: AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BELGIUM AND THE UK.

3. UNICEF PLANS TO PUBLISH AN INFORMATION MEMORANDUM WITHIN NEXT TWO WEEKS FOR PRESENTATION TO EXECUTIVE BOARD AND SUBSEQUENTLY FOR GENERAL DISTRIBUTION, WHICH WILL REPORT ON UNICEF EFFORTS IN INDOCHINA OVER THE PAST YEAR, INCLUDING RESULTS OF SANDBERG/BEAUMONT TRIP. PRELIMINARY RESULTS, REPORTED AT MEETING OF SANDBERG/BEAUMONT TRIP ARE AS FOLLOWS:

4. UNICEF CURRENTLY ESTIMATES THAT ABOUT U.S. \$44.2 MILLION IS NEEDED TO COVER INDOCHINA PROJECTS FOR INTERVAL 1973, 1974, 1975 OF WHICH APPROXIMATELY U.S. \$4.9 MILLION APPROPRIATED FOR 1973. BY AREA, BREAKDOWN IS AS FOLLOWS (PRELIMINARY FIGURES: TERMS, U.S. \$ MILLION):

	1973	1974-1975
NORTH VIETNAM	\$1.7	#16.3
PRG	.5	4.0
SOUTH VIETNAM	.8	10.5
LAOS	.2	5.0
CAMBODIA	6	3.0
BUDGET SUPPORT	1.1	.5
TOTAL	\$4.9	\$39.3

5. IN ORDER MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS, THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR INDOCHINA PENINSULA PROGRAM: FROM GOVERNMENTS, U.S. \$12.4 MILLION; FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL DONORS, \$.4 MILLION; FROM UNICEF'S LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GENERAL RESOURCES, U.S. \$3.0 MILLION; FROM UNICEF'S EMERGENCY RESERVE, U.S. \$.1 MILLION. TOTAL U.S. \$15.9 MILLION. FOLLOWING SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION MEMORANDUM TO EXECUTIVE BOARD NOTED PARA 3, IT IS EXPECTED THAT EXECUTIVE BOARD WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL \$8 MILLION FROM GENERAL RESOURCES (\$4 MILLION EACH IN 1974 AND 1975) AND WILL APPEAL TO POTENTIAL DONORS FOR BALANCE OF FUNDS, I.E., FOR U.S. \$20.3 MILLION.

6. COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY ASSESSMENT BY SANDBERG/BEAUMONT
AS FOLLOWS:

7. NORTH VIETNAM. THE U.S. \$1.7 MILLION PROVIDED IN
1973 WAS ESSENTIALLY FOR IMPROVEMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
AND THE PROVISION OF TEACHING AIDS, ARISING FROM FIRST
UNICEF TRIP. CURRENT TRIP REPORTED TO BE GREAT IMPROVE-
MENT OVER FIRST TRIP, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD CORDIALITY
OF NORTH VIETNAMESE AND DEGREE OF PLANNING UNDERTAKEN
BY THEM. OSTENSIBLY TEAM WORKED THROUGH NORTH VIETNAMESE
RED CROSS, BUT IT TURNED OUT THAT RED CROSS SET UP A
WORKING GROUP COMPOSED OF SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM TECHNICAL
MINISTRIES PLUS MFA REP, AND UNICEF TEAM DEALT WITH THIS
WORKING GROUP. IN ADDITION TO TECHNICAL MATTERS, TEAM DISCUSSED
THE POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF UNICEF OFFICE IN HANOI.
TEAM ALSO SAW MINISTER OF EDUCATION, WHO NOTED THAT VISIT
OF TEAM WAS BEGINNING OF LONG AND FRUITFUL COOPERATION.
THE U.S. \$16.3 MILLION FOR 1974/1975 IS TO BUILD 220 PRIMARY
SCHOOL BUILDINGS, INCLUDING THE PROVISION OF FURNITURE
AND SIMPLE TEACHING AIDS (THIS OUT OF TOTAL OF 800 REQUESTED
BY NORTH VIETNAMESE AND OUT OF TOTAL OF APPROXIMATELY 2,200
SCHOOLS ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN DESTROYED OR DAMAGED EITHER
BY WAR OR FROM TYPHOONS). COST ESTIMATE IS PRELIMINARY,
AND INCLUDES IMPORTATION OF ALL MATERIALS, SINCE BOTH
DOMESTIC WOOD AND STEEL ALLEGED TO BE IN SHORT SUPPLY.
PRELIMINARY UNICEF PLAN IS TO PROCEED IN THREE PHASES:
PHASE ONE TO BE TECHNICAL CONSULTATION ON SPECIFICATION
FOR PREFABS (AND WILL INCLUDE UNICEF'S PROVISION OF A
CONSULTANT, WHICH AGREED TO BY NORTH VIETNAM); PHASE TWO
TO BUILD 20 SCHOOLS, WITH LARGE TRAINING COMPONENT; PHASE
THREE TO BUILD REMAINING 200 SCHOOLS. UNICEF NOT ASKED
TO PROVIDED ASSISTANCE IN HEALTH FIELD, SINCE ALREADY
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ENOUGH BILATERAL AID IS BEING PROVIDED.
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P R 141507Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION USUN NY

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INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

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8. PRG. UNICEF TEAM DISCUSSED PRG NEEDS WITH PRG OFFICIALS IN HANOI. NEEDS APPEARED TO BE HEALTH FACILITIES AND TEACHING AIDS FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (RECONSTRUCTION ALLEGED NOT TO BE A NEED, SINCE SUFFICIENT AID FORTHCOMING FROM ELSEWHERE IN THIS REGARD); ALSO CLOTHING AND FOOD (WITH RECIPIENTS UNSPECIFIED). SANDBERG/BEAUMONT TOLD PRG OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, THAT IN ORDER ASSESS NEEDS IT NECESSARY TO VISIT AREAS WHERE ASSISTANCE TO BE PROVIDED. PRG REPORTEDLY HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO SUCH A VISIT, AND SUGGESTED TWO LOCATIONS: DONG HA AND LOC NINH. IT WAS AGREED THAT LOC NINH PREFERABLE, SINCE THIS IS WHERE PRG TECHNICAL SERVICES ARE HEADQUARTERED. WHEN ASKED HOW TEAM COULD GET TO LOC NINH, PRG REPLIED BY SAYING TEAM COULD GO VIA SAIGON. SANDBERG/BEAUMONT SAID THAT IN ORDER FOR TEAM TO DO THIS THERE HAD TO BE AT LEAST TACIT AGREEMENT BY THE GVN AS WELL AS PRG. UNICEF NOW AWAITING COMMUNICATION FROM PRG REGARDING THIS VISIT. (COMMENT: AT FOLLOW-ON DISCUSSION WITH MISOFFS, SANDBERG/BEAUMONT SAID IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION THAT THEY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WOULD BE THE ONES TO GO TO LOC NINH IF ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE. WHEN PRESSED FOR MEANING OF TERM "TACIT AGREEMENT" BEAUMONT REPLIED THAT UNICEF NEEDS TO KNOW THAT THERE IS NO OBJECTION ON PART OF GVN TO VISIT TO LOC NINH, SINCE UNICEF CANNOT JEOPARDIZE ITS PROGRAM FOR THE CHILDREN OF SOUTH VIETNAM. HE ALSO SAID THAT UNICEF WOULD SETTLE FOR SOMETHING BETWEEN A TACIT

AND AN ORAL AGREEMENT BY THE GVN, THEN WENT ON TO SAY THAT IT IS UP TO THE PRG TO FIND AN ACCEPTABLE WAY, ALTHOUGH HE RECOGNIZED UNICEF WAS "WALKING ON EGGS.") U.S. \$.5 MILLION FOR 1973 WAS FOR HEALTH SERVICES, CLOTH, MATERIAL FOR SHELTERS. U.S. \$4.0 MILLION FOR 1974/1975 IS UNICEF GUESSTIMATE OF WHAT UNICEF'S RESPONSE MIGHT BE TO PRG'S ORIGINAL REQUEST OF U.S. \$5.0 MILLION.

9. LAOS. UNICEF ROLE IN LAOS WAS TO IDENTIFY AID THAT WOULD BE COMPLEMENTARY TO U.S. AND FRENCH AID. ALSO, IT WAS JUDGEMENT OF UNICEF TEAM THAT AID SHOULD BE PROVIDED IN CONTEXT THREE CONSTRAINTS: FIRST, AID SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON LAOTIAN SELF-HELP AND SELF-RELIANCE; SECOND, AID IN HEALTH AND EDUCATION ESPECIALLY NEEDED IN RURAL AREAS, NOT IN VIENTIANE; THIRD, ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY IS HIGHLY LIMITED AND HENCE AID NEEDS TO HAVE A LARGE TRAINING COMPONENT. UNICEF TEAM MET WITH BOTH ROYAL LAO AND PATHET LAO OFFICIALS. ROYAL LAO OFFICIALS PROVIDED TEAM WITH LIST OF NEEDS. WITH REGARD PATHET LAO, UNICEF REPRESENTATIVE IN VIENTIANE, PRIOR TO TEAM VISIT, HAD DISCUSSED NECESSITY OF PROVIDING LIST OF NEEDS, WHICH PATHET LAO OFFICIALS SAID THEY WOULD DO (THIS LIST HAS NOW BEEN RECEIVED UNICEF HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK). TEAM DISCUSSIONS WITH PATHET LAO OFFICIALS CONFINED TO CONFIRMATION PATHET LAO DESIRE TO WORK WITH UNICEF, ALTHOUGH PATHET LAO OFFICIALS STATED THAT PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS WITH UNICEF HAD TO BE CONSIDERED AS TEMPORARY IN VIEW OF IMMINENT FORMATION OF COALITION GOVERNMENT.

10. CAMBODIA. WITH REGARD CAMBODIA, UNICEF TEAM EXPRESSED HIGH REGARD FOR MINISTRY OF EDUCATION OFFICIALS, WHO ALLEGED TO BE BRIGHT, YOUNG, ACTIVE AND INTERESTED IN THE WELFARE OF THE CHILDREN OF THE COUNTRY AS A WHOLE. OPPOSITE SITUATION PREVAILS WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REGARD TO HEALTH MINISTRY, WHERE IT REPORTED ONE-HALF OF DOCTORS OUT OF COUNTRY ON FELLOWSHIPS, WITH HEALTH FACILITIES AND MOTIVATION MOST INADEQUATE. IN VIEW OF UNICEF TEAM, HEALTH IS A PRIORITY EMERGENCY. UNICEF 1974/1975 PROGRAM OF U.S. \$3.0 MILLION DIVIDED AMONG EDUCATION (U.S. \$1.6 MILLION), HEALTH (U.S. \$.9 MILLION) AND RESETTLEMENT AND ASSISTANCE REFUGEES (U.S. \$.5 MILLION). HEALTH PROGRAM INCLUDES SETTING UP EMERGENCY STOCKPILES OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO SUPPLY HEALTH SERVICES IN PHNOM PENH AND OUTSIDE. SANDBERG/BEAUMONT HAD DISCUSSIONS IN PHNOM PENH WITH RED CROSS OFFICIALS AND WITH A FRENCH PRIEST WHO HAD BEEN PRISONER OF KHMER ROUGE IN EFFORT TO IDENTIFY NAMES OF, LOCATION OF AND MEANS TO CONTACT KHMER ROUGH AUTHORITIES (BEAUMONT HAD BEEN IN CONTACT

WITH KHMER ROUGE AUTHORITIES IN PARIS EARLIER ON SAME SUBJECT). THESE DISCUSSIONS EVIDENTLY UNSUCCESSFUL. SANDBERG/BEAUMONT SAID THAT THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO PURSUE EFFORTS TO CONTACT KHMER ROUGE. (COMMENT. AT FOLLOW-ON DISCUSSION BY MISOFFS WITH SANDBERG/BEAUMONT, THEY SAID THAT THEY HAD NOT DISCUSSED WITH GKR THEIR EFFORTS TO CONTACT KHMER ROUGE; ALSO THAT WHEN CONTACT IS MADE UNICEF AND NOT THE RED CROSS WILL BE THE ONES TO EFFECT SUCH CONTACT. WHEN ASKED AT WHAT POINT IN THE PROCESS THEY PLANNED TO DISCUSS THESE EFFORTS WITH THE GKR, BEAUMONT SAID THAT IT WAS NOT THEIR INTENTION TO HIDE ANYTHING, THAT THE GKR CANNOT BE IGNORED, THAT SOME KIND OF UNDERSTANDING IS NEEDED WITH THE GKR, BUT HE UNABLE TO STATE EXACTLY WHEN THEY WILL DISCUSS WITH GKR SINCE THIS WILL DEPEND ON PROGRESS IN ESTABLISHING CONTACT.)

11. SOUTH VIETNAM. 1974/1975 PROGRAM OF U.S. \$10.5 MILLION DIVIDED AMONG HEALTH (U.S. \$1.7 MILLION), EDUCATION (U.S. \$4.0 MILLION), WELFARE AND REHABILITATION OF ETHNIC MINORITIES (U.S. \$.3 MILLION), RESETTLEMENT (U.S. \$1.25 MILLION) AND WATER (U.S. \$3.25 MILLION). FOR 1973 U.S. \$.8 MILLION CONFINED TO MATERNAL/CHILD HEALTH ASSISTANCE, CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF CLASSROOMS AND PROVISION OF MATERIAL FOR SHELTERS.
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